[*English*]

Revenue Loss in Cantonment Areas Under Central Command

1434. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been great loss of Government revenue due to failure of the Cantonment Boards within Central Command to realise Standard Table of Rents before renewal of land lease of building sites in civil areas of various Cantonments under the Command;

(b) whether most of the Boards have been violating the provisions of Cantonment Code Leases and old Grant, Cantonment Land Administration Rules, 1937 and the Cantonment Act, 1924;

(c) whether the Central Command has received several representations and notices in this regard;

(d) whether the estimate of revenue loss by each Cantonment under the Central Command has been determined;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken against the defaulting Cantonment Officials; and

(g) the steps taken by the government to prevent such losses of revenue?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There has been no loss of revenue as lease rants are revised at the time of renewal as per the terms of the lease and not on the basis of Standard Table of Rents.

(b) Govt. have not received reports to suggest that Cantonment Boards are violating such provisions of Law/Rules.

(c) A complaint from one Shri Ram Babu Misra, Advocate, Kanpur, dated 20.11.91, addressed to Director of Defence Estates, Central Command, has been received by the Director General of Defence Estates alleging, inter-alia, the matters listed in the Question.

(d) to (g). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Modernisation of spinning Mills in Andhra Pradesh

1436. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted any proposal to the Union government for the modernisation of some spinning mills including the Ajamjahi mills; end

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No proposal regarding modernisation of spinning mills from Andhra Pradesh has been pending with the Union Government. However, Industrial development Bank of India has informed that as on 25.11.91 applications of 3 mills viz. Shri Maruthi Textiles Ltd., Chitoor, Feno Fibre Ltd., Nizamabad and Sree Kumara Swamy Spinning Mills Ltd., Nellore excluding that of Ajamjahi Mill are pending for modernisation assistance.

(b) In pursuance of Textile Policy, 1985 Textile Modernisation Fund was created by govt. of India under Industrial Development Bank of India in September, 1986 by earmarking a sum of Rs 750 crores for a five

year period, to meet the modernisation requirements of textile mills. A part of the fund was earmarked to provide special loans to week but viable units as a major part (upto 80%) of their promoter's contribution to enable them to avail of the modernisation assistance. The special loans carry interest at the rate of 6% per annum and are repayable over a period of 12 years, including a moratorium of 6 years.

Multinational Investment guarantee Agency

1437. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to join the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), the World Bank affiliate; and

(b) if so, the advantages likely to accrue from joing the MIGA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The question of Government of India joining the MIGA is under consideration

(b) MIGA has been established to offer investment quarantees to Investors against non commercial risks in member countries and to give promotional and advisory services - with a view to promoting the flow of investment .resources for productive purposes to developing countries.

Irregularities at Sahar International Airport

1438. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Sahar Gangport" appearing in the Bombay weekly 'BLTZ' dated October 5, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by the government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) and (c). As far as Customs are concerned, no involvement of Customs officials in any such activity as alleged in the news item been found. Besides surprise checks by senior Customs Officers, Central Intelligence Unit of the Custom House also makes discreet visits to Airport to check any malpractices. Entry of persons not connected with airport operations is controlled.

As far as allegations against police and other agencies are concerned, the facts are being ascertained from the Ministry of Home affairs and other concerned organisations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Steps to check smuggling

1439. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether any fresh steps have been taken to check smuggling and apprehend smugglers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Customs authorities remain vigilant against smuggling activities. The field formations have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, fire-arms and telecommunication network.